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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/688,509

10/17/2003

Christopher Russell Byrne

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7590

09/09/2004

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EXAMINER

JONES, SCOTT E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3713

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/688,509

Applicant(s)

BYRNE, CHRISTOPHER
RUSSELL

Examiner

Scott E. Jones

Art Unit

3713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 June 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-72 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 40-65 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-39 and 66-72 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on June 4, 2004 in which applicant adds new claims 40-65, which are copied exactly from claims 1-26, respectively, of U.S. Patent No. 6,692,354 and adds new claims 66-72. Claims 16-72 are pending.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 69 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In line 5, applicant should change "ground" to "group".

Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 16-37 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jones et al. (U.S. 4,861,041).

Jones et al. discloses a method and apparatus for including a progressive jackpot component in a live casino table game. In addition to playing a live casino table game, each player makes an additional wager at the beginning of each hand that makes that player eligible to win all of part of a jackpot. If during the play of the hand a player is dealt a predetermined

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arrangement of cards, the player wins a preselected percentage of the jackpot amount. The jackpot is progressive in that unwon amounts of the jackpot carry over to the next hand.

Apparatus is provided to receive each gaming token wagered for the jackpot component, to increment the jackpot meter which displays the jackpot amount, to decrement the jackpot meter whenever a winning hand is paid and to reset the apparatus for the next hand. Jones et al.

additionally discloses:

Regarding Claim 16:

- forming a group consisting of all entrants who have made a first wager on the outcome of a first game and a second wager on the outcome of a second, group participation game (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19);
- determining whether the first game is a winner (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19);
- indicating the outcome of the game (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19); and,
- determining whether the second game is a winner (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 17:

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- wherein the step of determining whether the group is a winner includes randomly generating indicia in a display and comparing at least a portion of the display with predetermined indicia that represents a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 18:

- wherein the indicia in the display is in the form of an array (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 19:

- wherein the step of indicating the outcome of the game includes displaying each randomly generated indicium one-by-one in the array so that the group can anticipate the chances of winning (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 20:

- wherein the step of determining whether the group is a winner includes comparing at least a portion of the indicia with a plurality of different predetermined indicia that each represent a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 21:

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- wherein the step of determining whether the group is a winner includes randomly generating indicia in an array and comparing at least a portion of the array with a predetermined combination of indicia that represents a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 22:

- wherein the step of determining whether the group is a winner includes comparing at least a portion of the array with a plurality of different predetermined combinations of indicia that each represent a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 23:

- wherein each entrant is able to make the first wager that differs in size from the first wagers being made by the other entrants (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 24:

- wherein said second wager by each entrant is a fixed amount (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 25:

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- wherein each entrant wagering on the second bonus game wins an identical amount if the second bonus game is a winner (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 26:

- forming a group of at least some of the entrants in the individual participation game who have made a wager on a first game and a wager on the outcome of the second group participation game (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19);
- determining whether the entire group is a winner of the group game (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19); and,
- indicating the outcome of the group game at the conclusion thereof (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 27:

- wherein the group forming step includes forming the group of all entrants in the first wagering game who have made a separate wager on the outcome of the second group game (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line

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45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 28:

- wherein the step of determining whether the group a winner includes randomly generating indicia in a display and comparing at least a portion of the display with predetermined indicia that represents a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 29:

- wherein the indicia in the display is in the form of an array (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 30:

- wherein the step of indicating the outcome of the game includes displaying each randomly generated indicium one-by-one in the array so that the group can anticipate the chances of winning (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 31:

- wherein the step of determining whether the group is a winner includes comparing at least a portion of the indicia with a plurality of different predetermined indicia that each represent a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-

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Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 32:

- wherein the step of determining whether the group is a winner includes randomly generating indicia in an array and comparing at least a portion of the array with a predetermined combination of indicia that represents a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 33:

- wherein the step of determining whether the group is a winner includes comparing at least a portion of the array with a plurality of different predetermined combinations of indicia that each represent a winning combination (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 34:

- wherein each entrant is able to make a wager on the individual game that differs in size from the wagers being made by the other entrants, and the size of the winnings awarded to each entrant corresponds to the size of the entrant's wager, and wherein each entrant makes the same wager on the second group game and is awarded the same winning prize amount (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line

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27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 35:

- wherein each gaming machine performs the step of indicating the outcome of the group game at the conclusion thereof (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 36:

- wherein the individual participation game is keno (Column 1, lines 17-33).

Regarding Claim 37:

- wherein the individual participation game is a game of chance (Abstract, Figures 1-3, Column 1, line 64-Column 2, line 27, Column 2, line 45-Column 3, line 24, Column 3, line 54-Column 4, line 64, Column 5, line 65-Column 6, line 6, and Claims 1-19).

Regarding Claim 39:

- wherein the individual participation game is a lottery (Column 1, lines 17-33).

5. Claims 38 and 66-72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jones et al. (U.S. 5,377,973).

Jones et al. discloses methods and apparatus for allowing gamblers playing either live casino table game or electronic video device versions of card games allow the players the options of making wagers in both the underlying card game and a progressive jackpot component, making wagers only in the underlying card game, and making a wager only in the progressive jackpot component. In the live table version, a player may activate an indicator

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light or place a special token in the bet box for the underlying game to signal that the player opts to participate only in the progressive jackpot component. In the electronic video device version, a player activates one or more push buttons to select one of the three operational modes. The underlying card game preferably comprises Twenty-One or a five-card stud poker variant known as Caribbean Stud. TM. poker, but may also comprise other card games such as five card stud, seven card stud, Jacks or better, etc. Jones et al. additionally discloses:

Regarding Claim 38:

- wherein the individual participation game is played on an electronic gaming machine, a plurality of the gaming machines being linked to a central processing unit which performs the step of determining whether the entire group is a winner of the group game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

Regarding Claim 66:

- at least one display device capable of displaying images associated with the primary game and the secondary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20); and,
- a central processing unit operatively coupled to the display device, the central processing unit being programmed determine a primary game outcome for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- the central processing unit being programmed to cause the display device to display images corresponding to the primary game outcome for the primary game (Abstract,

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- Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- the central processing unit being programmed to compare the primary game outcome for the primary game to the entry of each entrant for the primary game, and to determine whether each entrant has a winning entry for the primary game based on the comparison of the primary game outcome to the entry of each entrant (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
 - the central processing unit being programmed to determine a primary game award amount for each entrant determined by the central processing unit to have a winning entry for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
 - the central processing unit being programmed to determine a secondary game outcome for the secondary game associated with the primary game, and an associated value for each winning share of a jackpot associated with the secondary game based upon the secondary game outcome (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
 - the central processing unit being programmed to cause the display device to display images corresponding to the associated value for each winning share of the jackpot associated with the secondary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20); and,

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- the central processing unit being programmed to determine a secondary game award amount for each entrant that placed a secondary wager on the secondary game associated with the primary game and that is determined by the central processing unit to have a winning entry for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

Regarding Claim 67:

- receiving entries from a plurality of entrants wherein each of the entrants has made a first wager on an outcome of the individual participation wagering game and a second wager to participate in the group participation wagering game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining whether a winning outcome is achieved for each entrant in the individual participation wagering game wherein if a winning outcome is achieved by an entrant in the individual participation wagering game, an individual prize amount is determined for the entrant (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- allocating a value to the group participation wagering game, the value being applied for each entrant achieving a winning outcome (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20); and,
- determining a total prize amount for each entrant achieving a winning outcome in the group participation game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

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Regarding Claim 68:

- wherein the value allocated to the group participation wagering game is a share value for one share of a jackpot calculated for the winning outcome in the group participation wagering game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

Regarding Claim 69:

- wherein said step of determining a total prize amount for each entrant achieving a winning outcome in the ground participation game includes multiplying the value allocated value to the group participation wagering game by a prize amount (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

Regarding Claim 70:

- receiving an entry and a primary wager for the primary game from a plurality of entrants, each entry made by one of the plurality of entrants for the primary game comprising a first subset of primary game indicia selected from a set of primary game indicia (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- receiving a secondary wager for the secondary game associated with the primary game from at least one of the entrants (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining a primary game outcome for the primary game, the primary game outcome for the primary game comprising a second subset of primary game indicia

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- selected from the set of primary game indicia (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- comparing the second subset of primary game indicia for the primary game to the first subset for the primary game for each entrant (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
 - determining a primary game award amount for each entrant for the primary game based on a level of correspondence between the first subset of primary game indicia for the entrant and the second subset of primary game indicia for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
 - determining a secondary game outcome for the secondary game associated with the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20); and,
 - determining a secondary game award amount for each of the plurality of entrants that placed a secondary wager on the secondary game associated with the primary game and that of primary game indicia is determined to have a winning entry for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

Regarding Claim 71:

- receiving an entry and a primary wager for the primary game from the plurality of entrants (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);

- receiving a secondary wager for the secondary game associated with the primary game from a subset of the entrants (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining a primary game outcome for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- comparing the primary game outcome for the primary game to the entry of each entrant for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining whether each entrant has a winning entry for the primary game based on the comparison of the primary game outcome to the entry of each entrant (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining a primary game award amount for each entrant determined to have a winning entry for the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining a secondary game outcome for the secondary game associated with the primary game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20); and,
- determining a secondary game award amount for each of the plurality of entrants that placed a secondary wager on the secondary game associated with the primary game and that is determined to have a winning entry for the associated primary game

(Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

Regarding Claim 72:

- receiving an entry and a first wager for the individual participation Keno game from a plurality of entrants (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- receiving a second wager for the group game associated with the individual participation Keno game from at least one of the entrants (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining an individual participation Keno game outcome for the individual participation Keno game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- comparing the individual participation Keno game outcome to the entry for the individual participation Keno game for each entrant (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);
- determining an individual participation Keno game award amount for each entrant for the individual participation Keno game based on a level of correspondence between the entry for the entrant and the individual participation Keno game outcome (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20);

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- determining a group game outcome for the group game associated with the individual participation Keno game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20); and,
- determining a group game award amount for each of the plurality of entrants that placed a second wager on the group game associated with the individual participation Keno game (Abstract, Figure 3, Column 2, line 41-Column 3, line 32, Column 9, line 41-Column 12, line 31, and Claims 1-20).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 40-65 are allowed.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Tracy '055, '909, Wain '809, Fulton '163, Helm et al. '024, Breeding '430, '194, and Barrie et al. '728 disclose systems and methods for participating in group type wagering games.

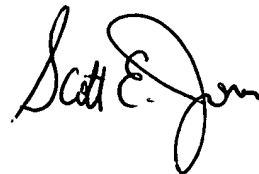
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott E. Jones whose telephone number is (703) 308-7133. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 6:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M..

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Scott E. Jones
Examiner
Art Unit 3713

sej

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott E. Jones", with a stylized flourish at the end.